

Small Forest Landowner Office

Legislative Briefing 2005

The Small Forest Landowner Office

The Small Forest Landowner Office was created through the 1999 Salmon Recovery Act and serves as a resource and focal point for small forest landowner concerns and policies. The Office provides a suite of programs and services for landowners statewide.

Overview of Programs

Forestry Riparian Easement Program

The Forestry Riparian Easement Program is a compensation program that reimburses landowners for the trees they must, by law, leave in riparian areas to protect water quality and wildlife habitat.

Accomplishments 2001 - 2005

	Westside	Eastside	Statewide
# of applications rcvd.	88	35	123
# of easements purchased	42	16	58
Acres conserved	951	172	1,123
Compensation (in millions)	\$4.8	\$0.4	\$5.2
Volume of Timber (million board feet)	18.2	1.6	19.8

Bogaciel River, Clallam County



Barnaby Creek, Ferry County

Family Forest Fish Passage Program

The Family Forest Fish Passage Program is a new cost-share program that provides 75 – 100 percent of the cost of repairing, replacing or removing fish barriers such as culverts, dams, weirs, spillways or other artificial instream structures that block fish from migrating to upstream habitat.

Accomplishments 2003-2005

	Westside	Eastside	Statewide
# of barriers submitted to program for funding	156	73	198
# of barriers funded in 2004	32	4	36
Cost of 2004 projects	\$907,742	\$159,321	\$1.06 MM
Miles of habitat opened in 2004	53.67	4.7	58.37
# of barriers scheduled for funding in 2005	17	5	22
Anticipated Cost of 2005 projects	\$815,100	\$388,000	\$1.2 MM
Miles of habitat to be opened in 2005	49.62	19.67	69.29

Before - Goat Hill Creek, Mason County



After - Goat Hill Creek, Mason County

Alternate Plans

The SFLO assists landowners with developing forest management plans that provide flexibility within the state regulations to address conservation needs unique to their property. Landowner are allowed to develop alternate management and harvest plans to deviate from the state forest practices rules as long as the plans provide comparable resource protection as the rules.

Accomplishments 2001 - 2005

	Westside	Eastside	Statewide
# of plans rcvd.	60	11	71

Types of Alternate Plans

Overstocked Stand	12
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Forest Health	10
Other	23

Grantwriting

In 2004 the Office hired a full-time grant writer to solicit funds for enhancing resource conservation on family forestlands. To date, the Office has obtained nearly \$600,000 in state and federal matching funds.

Funding partners have included: the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Washington State Department Of Ecology, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

Accomplishments 2004

Funding	Purpose
\$551,180	Matching funds for Family Forest Fish Passage Program
\$31,500	GIS analysis of small forestlands to identify fish barriers
\$59,700	Road maintenance workshops and educational materials for small forest landowners
\$642,380	Total

Hardwood Conversion – Stillaguamish River



Overstocked Stand – Eastern WA